

this time period. And, I am hopeful that we will soon enact legislation that will help the hundreds of thousands of children in foster care in our country. Let us work together to ensure the success of our future by promoting safety and stability for our children today.●

GIFT OF TIME FOUNDATION

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the efforts of an outstanding organization which has dedicated itself to aid in the development of our Nation's children. The Gift of Time Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing community service, academic, and physical fitness programs for children between the ages of four and eighteen.

The mission of the Gift of Time Foundation is: "To provide children with resources, opportunities and assistance that help them develop high self-esteem, self confidence, socially acceptable value systems, diverse cultural appreciation and family values by providing them with structured environments for membership in mandatory participation in physical fitness, academics, and community service programs. To provide children with personal character development assistance for self expression through structured positive activities alternatives."

The Gift of Time Foundation was spearheaded by E. Douglas McFarlin. His vision was to build a youth complex in St. Louis that would provide children with the proper direction to meet the challenges of our modern society. Mr. McFarlin has worked closely with business, community, and civic leaders to launch this important project. He is hoping that the St. Louis complex will be the first of many across the country.

Mr. President, organizations such as the Gift of Time Foundation can help a community in building character and values in its children. The efforts of Mr. McFarlin and his organization are to be commended for taking this challenge head on. I ask that you join me in recognizing this fine organization and wishing Mr. McFarlin the very best on his endeavors to bring this program to the children of our nation.●

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS MARTIN

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today to salute Mr. Dennis Martin, a native Missourian and retiring Director for the Single Family Housing Division in the St. Louis, MO, HUD/FHA Field Office.

On March 7, 1969, Mr. Martin joined the St. Louis Area Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, St. Louis, MO, as a Single-family Construction Analyst.

Mr. Martin has been recognized for his outstanding contributions to the housing industry throughout his career by both private industry and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He has received several

awards, including a "Special Housing Recognition Award" for his accomplishments in the Housing Industry, the Patriotic Service Award and the Secretary's Award of Excellence.

Dennis and his wife, JoAnn, have two children, Deanna and Christopher. Deanna is a Chiropractic Doctor and is married to Dr. Jeremiah Freedman. Christopher is in law school at the University of Tulsa. Dennis and his wife are active in their church in Dardenne Prairie, MO, and he is active in a number of civic and Masonic organizations. Dennis also achieved the rank of Sergeant while serving in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968. His parents are Clarence H. and the late Grace Martin of Dixon, MO.

I commend Dennis for his service to the community over the past 35 years. I am honored to share his accomplishments with my colleagues, and I wish him and JoAnn the best for the future.●

TRIBUTE TO SISTER CLARITA ANNEKEN

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Sister Clarita Anneken of Villa Hills, KY for her 63 years devoted to educating young men and women who attended Villa Madonna Academy.

Everything that we do in the United States Senate is done with the idea in mind that we are making the world a better place for those who come after us. Indeed the entire government is dedicated to ensuring that America will continue to protect the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness long into the future. However, let me remind the Senate that if the people of America are not educated to appreciate the sanctity of life, the glory of liberty, and the meaningfulness of pursuing happiness, that everything we do here will be wasted. No matter how wise the laws we enact, a people ignorant of these important principles will only resent wise laws, not benefit from them.

It is for this reason that I believe that the work of Sister Clarita is so crucial. Sister Clarita has dedicated her life to the education of America's future. For 63 years Sister Clarita has invested her knowledge, time, effort, patience, and understanding in the young people of Villa Madonna Academy. Her efforts have shaped the understanding of many young people who will be a part of America's future.

I believe that no good deed goes unrewarded. The reward that Sister Clarita will reap, however will be a reward reaped for many years, long after her teaching career is finished. It will be a reward which many Americans will share. It will be the reward of young, educated men and women who will be able to continue the great traditions of this country.

Sister Clarita's dedication to the young is an assurance of the brightness of America's future. And I thank Sister

Clarita for this assurance and for the bright future of America.●

WALNUT, IOWA, SAYS THANK YOU TO WORLD WAR II VETERAN

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the National World War II Memorial will be dedicated here in Washington on the Saturday before Memorial Day. It is a stunningly beautiful monument, located midway between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument. It is a long-overdue salute, an expression of profound gratitude, to the millions of Americans who served their country with courage, sacrifice, and selflessness in that war.

I would like to share with my Senate colleagues a remarkable story about how the small community of Walnut, IA, has expressed its gratitude to a local veteran of the Second World War, Erwin Arndt.

Mr. Arndt returned from the war to serve his community as an electrician, a volunteer firefighter, a city council member, and commander of the local AMVETS unit. Just about everybody in Walnut knows and respects Mr. Arndt. And there was much concern when he suffered a series of strokes over the past year.

All too typically, a man in Mr. Arndt's condition would have no choice but to become a dependent in a nursing home. But friends and neighbors in Walnut came to his rescue in a truly remarkable and inspiring way. They joined hands to give him the where-withal and assistance he needed to continue living independently in his apartment.

A local restaurant helped to provide daily meals. Several citizens helped Mr. Arndt to keep his apartment clean and orderly, and take him to medical appointments. Still others organized shifts to keep him company in his apartment. Several especially kind citizens got together to purchase a motorized chair to help Mr. Arndt get around.

It was truly a community effort, an act of collective kindness that I find truly inspiring. Mr. Arndt's daughter, Karen DeWinter, is overwhelmed with gratitude for what the people of Walnut did for her father. She told me that she was especially touched that on her father's birthday, the local AMVET auxiliary held a party at a cafe, where they brought cards from local elementary and preschool children.

I want to acknowledge the people of Walnut, IA, for their extraordinary caring and kindness toward Erwin Arndt. Like millions of Americans of what Tom Brokaw has labeled "the Greatest Generation," Mr. Arndt served our Nation with dedication in both war and peace.

In their own special way, the people of Walnut have said thank you to this veteran and beloved member of the community. I would like to add my own gratitude, not just to Mr. Arndt but also to the good citizens of Walnut.●